



Chairperson Vice-Chair

**DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
Minutes of the Board of Police Commissioners Meeting**

Thursday, March 19, 2009

The meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners was held on Thursday, March 19, 2009, at 3:00 p.m., at Police Headquarters, 1300 Beaubien Street, Detroit, Michigan 48226.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present

Jim Holley **(ABS)**
Ronald L. Griffin **(ABS)**
Toney Stewart
Adela Rivera
Mohamed Okdie

Department Personnel Present

AC Ronald Fleming
DC Herbert Moreland
Cmdr. Gail Wilson-Turner
Cmdr. Brian Stair
Lt. Herbert Myles
Lt. Johnny Thomas
Lt. Donna Jarvis
Sgt. Rodney Cox
Sgt. Dwight Snodgrass
Sgt. Debra Lynn Jones
Sgt. Hilton Kincaid
PO Sophia Nelms
PO Viera Brownlee

Board Staff Present

Dante' L. Goss, Executive Director
Celia Banks-Washington, Attorney/Supervising Inv.
Arnold Sheard, Chief Investigator
Lt. Lashinda Houser, Police Personnel
Lt. Daniel Allen
Leslie J. Griffin, Community Affairs Coordinator
PO Kent Cooper

OTHERS PRESENT

Edward Moore
Don Johnson
Barbara Johnson
Judge David Allen

Ron Scott
Bernice Smith
Bill Wellborne
Tijuana Morris

RECORDERS

PO Terence Bell

1. CALL TO ORDER

Comm. Okdie called the meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners to order at 3:15 p.m.

2. OATH

Judge Allen swore in Toney Stewart as a Commissioner.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- **Thursday, March 19, 2009**

MOTION: **Comm. Rivera** made the motion to approve the Agenda.

SECOND: **Comm. Stewart** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **Thursday, March 12, 2009**

MOTION: **Comm. Rivera** made the motion to approve the Minutes.

SECOND: **Comm. Stewart** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

5. BOPC OFFICER'S REPORT

SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY OF POLICE OFFICER STEVIE PERRY, BADGE 5065, ASSIGNED TO THE AUTO THEFT TEAM

On January 21, 2009, Internal Affairs received an Inter-Office Memorandum from Sergeant Jonathan Parnell, badge S-828, of the Auto Theft Team, regarding an allegation of fraud on the part of Police Officer Stevie Perry, badge 5065, assigned to the Auto Theft Team. It was alleged that during 2007 and 2008, on fourteen (14) different occasions, Officer Perry received reward monies totaling \$26,998.00, for providing auto theft crime related information and tips to the Help Eliminate Auto Theft (HEAT) program. The monies were received under the name of Officer Perry's brother.

A review of the Inter-Office Memorandum revealed that Sergeant Parnell was notified by Mrs. Nina Hier, the Project Coordinator of HEAT, regarding a telephone call she received from Officer Perry's brother who was inquiring about a Federal Income Tax Form 1099, he received from HEAT for \$26,998.00. He denied receiving income from HEAT.

After a short conversation regarding the form, Mrs. Hier confirmed Officer Perry's brother's name (it should be noted that Officer Perry and his brother do not share the same last name) and social security number and informed him that he needed to pay the appropriate taxes for the income he received for providing tip information to the Detroit Police Department Auto Theft Team. Officer Perry's brother repeated that he did not receive any income from HEAT, and he added that he had not provided auto theft crime tips, nor worked with the Detroit Police Department's Auto Theft Team. Mrs. Hier thanked him and ended the telephone call.

Approximately ten minutes later, Officer Perry's brother called Mrs. Hier and stated that he was absentminded and he did indeed remember providing tip information to HEAT and collecting the aforementioned income. Mrs. Hier noted that the call from Officer Perry's brother was identified on her caller identification as, "E. Perry." Mrs. Hier was familiar with the "Perry" name from past contact with Officer Perry. She notified Commander Robert Ennis, of Investigative Operations regarding the matter.

On February 19, 2009, Internal Affairs received information from HEAT via Search Warrant #9000586. A review of the HEAT Tip Forms indicated that Officer Perry acting as his brother submitted fourteen (14) tips and received \$26,998.00 for the information he provided. Internal Affairs also obtained the canceled checks regarding the matter, and they revealed that each check had a signature that had Officer Perry's brother's name and they were all counter-signed by Officer Perry. The checks were then deposited into Officer Perry's personal account at the CU Family Credit Union Service Center, located at 14481 Gratiot. It should be noted that the signature on the checks that was purported to be Officer Perry's brother did not match the signature on his Michigan driver's license.

On February 24, 2009, Internal Affairs received information from the Telecom Credit Union (the main branch) via Search Warrant #9000587. A review of the deposit monthly statements for Officer Perry's account indicated that he deposited each check into his account. Internal Affairs also reviewed Officer Perry's initial account information, which revealed that the account was established on February 13, 1995, and according to the Joint Share Account Agreement card for Officer Perry's account, he added his wife on June 17, 1995; however, he removed her from his account on April 8, 2003. There were no other authorized persons on Officer Perry's account.

Internal Affairs reviewed the criminal case files that were associated with the HEAT tips allegedly provided by the citizen; however, the tip and arrest information did not match.

On March 3, 2009, at the direction of Internal Affairs, Sergeant Vernall Newson, badge S-39, assigned to the Auto Theft Team suspended Officer Perry from the Detroit Police Department.

On March 9, 2009, Officer Perry's brother initially stated that he had given the tips to HEAT and received all of the tip money from Officer Perry; however, after further questioning, he admitted that he

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Thursday, March 19, 2009

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never received any of the money. He further admitted that Officer Perry told him what to say to Internal Affairs.

Based upon the above facts and circumstances, it is recommended that Officer Perry be charged with, but not limited to, the following violation of the department Rules and Regulations:

CHARGE: CONDUCT UNBECOMING AN OFFICER, CONTRARY TO THE LAW ENFORCEMENT CODE OF ETHICS; THIS BEING IN VIOLATION OF THE DETROIT POLICE DEPARTMENT MANUAL SERIES 100, DIRECTIVE 102.3 – 7.9, CONDUCT UNPROFESSIONAL, COMMAND 1.

Due to the seriousness of the conduct, I am requesting your concurrence with the suspension of Police Officer Stevie Perry without pay, effective March 19, 2009.

Unless contravened by this Board the suspension without pay shall stand.

There were no contraventions.

1. CHAIRPERSON
2. SECRETARY'S REPORT

CITIZEN COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

2009 - Weekly Count of Complaints:

2008 - Weekly Count of Complaints:

This Week

Year to Date

23
9
61% Increase

281
242
10% Decrease

- The Office of the Chief Investigator has a total of **1,249** active investigations, of which **242** of those are for 2009.

TOTAL WEEKLY ALLEGATIONS & COMMAND

Total	COMMAND	ALLEGATIONS									Total
CCR	W/E 03/19/09	Arrest	Demeanor	Force	Harassment	Entry	Procedure	Property	Search	Service	Allegations
1	12TH PRECINCT		1	1			1				3
2	COMMUNICATION									2	2
1	EASTERN		1				1			1	3
5	NORTHEASTERN		2				2	1		1	6
1	NORTHWESTERN		1				1				2
1	ORGANIZED CRIME								1		1
2	SOUTHWESTERN		1							1	2
1	TACTICAL						1				1
7	Unknown Command		3				6	1		1	11
1	VIOLENT CRIMES		1	1							2
1	WESTERN						1				1
23			10	2			13	2	1	6	34

6. **PRESENTATION/REPORT-CHIEF OF POLICE**

March 19, 2009

Volume 5, Issue 12

Detroit Police Department

Report to the Board of Police Commissioners



Special Points of Interest:

• Next meeting:

Thursday, March 26, 2009

@ 3:00 P.M.

**Detroit Police Department
1300 Beaubien Suite# 328A
Detroit, Michigan 48226**

“Building a Safer Detroit Through Community Partnerships”

The Detroit Police Department is committed to uphold its mission to provide a safe environment for our residents and businesses. This effort is not possible without the joint commitment of the community and the Police Department. We appreciate and value the role our citizens have played in helping us to take the guns and drugs off the streets of the city of Detroit.

SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

Domestic Violence

On March 12, 2009, officers of the Northwestern District responded to the 19000 block of Greenfield on a “Breaking & Entering” call and arrested a subject. As a result of the investigation conducted by members of Domestic Violence, the subject was charged with “Home Invasion 3rd, Habitual 4th, and Domestic Violence.”

Inside this issue:

Narcotics/Gang Enforcement 1

Domestic Violence 1

Southwestern District 2

Homicide 2

Northwestern District 2

Tactical Mobile 2

Northeastern District 2

Engaging the Community

Citizens wishing to make a police report may do so at the District/Precinct stations in the city of Detroit. Citizens may also utilize the following District Mini/Sub-Stations to make reports.

	<u>Location</u>	<u>Hours of Operation</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
	1300 Beaubien	24 Hours	596-5100
	2151 E. Jefferson	24 Hours	596-6400
	7737 Kercheval	*8 a.m. to 2 p.m.	628-2121
	19810 Grand River	*9 a.m. to 9 p.m.	870-0649
	13530 Lesure	8 a.m. to 11 p.m.	596-5300
	2575 S. Schaefer	*3 p.m. to 9 p.m.	297-9423
	20 Atwater	24 Hours	237-2850
	13206 E. Jefferson	*3 p.m. to 9 p.m.	821-5851
	22101 Moross (St. John Hospital)	*3 p.m. to 9 p.m.	343-7506
	14700 Mack	*3 p.m. to 9 p.m.	852-4046

* Mini-Stations– Monday –Friday

March 19, 2009

Police / Community Intervention

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Southwestern District

On March 12, 2009, officers of the Southwestern District responded to the 2000 block of Carson on a "Breaking & Entering" run. As a result of their investigation, two subjects were arrested and charged with "Breaking & Entering with Intent, Receiving & Concealing Stolen Property, and Malicious Destruction of Property in a Building." All of the stolen property was recovered.



Northwestern District

On March 11, 2009, while on patrol in the area of Dover and Greenview, officers of the Northwestern District observed a subject, who was wanted in a shooting, throw an object from a vehicle. The officers conducted a traffic stop and as a result of their investigation, the subject was arrested and charged with "Carrying a Concealed Weapon." The weapon was recovered.



Homicide

On March 9, 2009, officers of the Eastern District responded to the 5000 block of East 7 Mile on a "Report of a Shooting." As a result of the investigation conducted by members of Homicide, a subject was arrested and charged with "First Degree Murder, Robbery Armed, and Felony Firearm."



Northeastern District

On March 13, 2009, officers of the Northeastern District were flagged down by the complainant, who identified a person who committed a robbery 4 days ago. Subsequent to their investigation, the subject was arrested and charged with "Armed Robbery, and Assault with Intent to Rob While Armed."

7. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no standings committee reports.

8. NEW BUSINESS

1. RESOLUTION: PO DAVID WHEELER

WHEREAS Mr. David B. Wheeler was appointed to the Detroit Police Department on July 15, 1985 upon graduating from the Detroit Metropolitan Police Academy. He was assigned to the 13th Precinct; and

WHEREAS Additional assignments for Officer Wheeler included the Special Crimes Section, the Detroit Metropolitan Police Academy as a physical trainer and the Executive Protection Unit where his primary function was to protect former City of Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer; and

WHEREAS Officer Wheeler displayed tremendous knowledge and commitment to improving life for all Detroit citizens. He continuously progressed throughout the Department and successfully completed assignments in the Communications Systems Section, 12th Precinct Patrol Operations, as well as in his current assignment within the Internal Affairs Division where he served in an investigative capacity; and

WHEREAS Officer Wheeler is the well-deserving recipient of the following awards and commendations: Three (3) Certificates of Perfect Attendance, one (1) Chief's Unit Award, one (1) Chief's Merit Award, one (1) Departmental Citation and numerous letters of appreciation and commendation from citizens and former Chiefs of Police; and

WHEREAS Officer Wheeler retired from the Detroit Police Department on March 20, 2009 after 23 years of dedicated service. During this time, he has proven to be a dedicated, knowledgeable and professional public servant and is highly respected throughout the law enforcement community as the consummate professional.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking on behalf of the citizens of the great City of Detroit recognize and honor the lifelong public service commitment of Police Officer David B. Wheeler. His loyalty, integrity and dedication in improving the quality of life for the citizens of the City of Detroit merit our highest regards. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

We thank and congratulate you, Police Officer David B. Wheeler

DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

/s/ Jim Holley
Chairperson

/s/Rev. Ronald L. Griffin
Vice Chairperson

/s/ Toney Stewart
Commissioner

**ADOPTED BY THE
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
March 19, 2009**

/s/ Adela Rivera
Commissioner

/s/ Mohamed Okdie
Commissioner

MOTION: Comm. Rivera made the motion to approve the Resolution.

SECOND: Comm. Stewart seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

2. RESOLUTION: LT EUGENE GOODE

- WHEREAS** Mr. Eugene Goode was appointed to the Detroit Police Department on August, 15, 1977 upon successfully graduating from the Detroit Metropolitan Police Academy. He began his lifelong public service career at the Fifteenth Precinct; and
- WHEREAS** Officer Goode's assignments with the Detroit Police Department included the Fifteenth Precinct, Armed Robbery and Property Crime Units and the Tactical Services Section. Officer Goode excelled in these departments and was well known for his unique crime fighting approach; and
- WHEREAS** Officer Goode displayed tremendous knowledge and leadership skills as a Police Officer and was promoted to the rank of Investigator on September 26, 1986. As Investigator, he served in the Crimes Against Property Section; and
- WHEREAS** On February 6, 1987, Investigator Goode was promoted to the rank of Sergeant where he remained assigned to the Crimes Against Property Section; and
- WHEREAS** Sergeant Goode was elected to the Office of Vice President of the Lieutenants and Sergeants Association (LSA). While there, he provided exceptional leadership and shortly thereafter was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant on June 9, 2000 and was assigned to the Personnel and Recruiting Section. In December 2006, Lieutenant Goode was elected President of the LSA where he diligently served from January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2008; and
- WHEREAS** Lieutenant Goode was the deserving recipient of the following awards: one (1) Wound Medal, one (1) Department Citation of Valor, five (5) Chief's Merits Awards, the 1980 GOP Commemorative Award, four (4) Chief's Unit Awards, All Star Game Award, Rosa Parks Funeral Award, Super Bowl Award and multiple Perfect Attendance Awards; and

WHEREAS Lieutenant Goode retired from the Department on February 2, 2009 after 31 years of loyal service. He has served the Detroit Police Department and the citizens of the City of Detroit with loyalty, professionalism, integrity and dedication, and is widely respected throughout the law enforcement community as the consummate professional.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking on behalf of the citizens of the great City of Detroit recognize and honor the lifelong contributions and commitment to excellence in public service of Lieutenant Eugene Goode. His display of courage and unwavering community spirit has improved the quality of life for the citizens of Detroit. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

We thank and congratulate you, Lieutenant Eugene Goode.

DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

/s/ Jim Holley
Chairperson

/s/Rev. Ronald L. Griffin
Vice Chairperson

/s/ Toney Stewart
Commissioner

**ADOPTED BY THE
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
March 19, 2009**

/s/ Adela Rivera
Commissioner

/s/ Mohamed Okdie
Commissioner

MOTION: Comm. Rivera made the motion to approve the Resolution.

SECOND: Comm. Stewart seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

**3. GRANT: REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO ACCEPT GRANT AWARD
FROM THE CARLYLE STEWART LEARNING K-8 ACADEMY**

The Carlyle Stewart Learning K-8 Academy was awarded a grant from the Michigan Fitness Foundation and has allotted the Tenth Precinct of the Detroit Police Department funding in the amount of \$4,500, with no cash match. The funds will be allocated for overtime to increase patrols in the area around Carlyle Stewart Learning K-8 Academy. These patrols will be conducted during various times between 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., focusing primarily on en-route and dismissal hours.

If approval to accept this funding is granted, Sgt. Shirley Bledsoe of the 10th Precinct, Community Relations, would serve as the project director. The appropriation number is 12924.

I am requesting the Board of Police Commissioner's permission to accept this funding and seek approval of the Honorable Detroit City Council.

Comm. Rivera stated she received a letter from the Chief's office stating patrol will be increased around the schools. She stated the request asked for 180 hours and the Chief only approved a 100 hours of overtime.

AC Fleming stated if the Chief said 100 hours, then it will be for 100 hours.

MOTION: **Comm. Rivera** made the motion to approve the Grant.

SECOND: **Comm. Stewart** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

**4. GRANT: REQUEST PERMISSION TO ACCEPT A GRANT FROM THE
OFFICE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME (OVC)**

The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) has granted the Detroit Police Department's Victims Assistance Program a total of \$5,000, **with no cash match**. The funding is to aid up to 56 communities nationwide in conducting public awareness initiatives during National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 22- May 2, 2009. This year's theme is *"25 Years of Rebuilding Lives: Celebrating the Victims of Crime Act"*. The Rape Counseling Center will be conducting a Victim Awareness Fair. There will be a public service announcement and the event will be held at one of the local convention centers. Other crime victim agencies will be partnering with the Detroit Police Department's, Victims Assistance Program as vendors, setting up booths to provide information to assist the community in an array of victimizations. Additionally, there will be guest speakers and refreshments/food provided.

If approval is granted to accept this funding, Ms. Joann Cooper-Reid of the Victim Assistance, would serve as the project director.

MOTION: **Comm. Rivera** made the motion to approve the Grant.

SECOND: **Comm. Stewart** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

Comm. Rivera congratulated the Victims Assistance Program on being selected for this Grant out of 186 applicants.

9. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

10. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, March 26, 2009
Police Headquarters
1300 Beaubien Rm. 328-A
Detroit, MI 48226

11. ORAL COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE

T. Morris asked Comm. Okdie to explain to the audience the discipline process for suspensions without pay. She asked why wasn't the charge of the officer put on the record.

Comm. Okdie stated the officer has the privilege of not having the charge read into the record, but that doesn't mean that the charge will not be in the record. He stated the charge will be put into the record.

T. Morris asked if the information was public.

Comm. Okdie stated yes, because this is a public forum.

He stated in regards to disciplinary appeals, if an officer violates, the administration has a right to discipline the officer. One of the disciplines that can be given is a suspension without pay and benefits, and it must come before this Board. This citizen Board will either concur with the Chief or contravene.

T. Morris stated for an officer to come before this Board something really bad had to happen.

Comm. Okdie stated that is correct.

D. Johnson stated regarding the seven officers who falsified their reports his concern is that during these times this Board needs to support the Chief in situations such as this.

Comm. Okdie stated he wasn't present when the vote was taken. He stated that issue was egregious, but a blanket suspension is very unusual. His preference is that a blanket suspension like this should never be done. All of the individuals that were involved need to be looked at separately.

D. Johnson stated from everything that is going on, someone has to stand up and be accountable.

Comm. Rivera stated that as they voted, the Board couldn't decide who did what because they were blanketed together. These officers are allowed their due process because a Trial Board could take up to a year or more. She stated that this Board has to weigh everything.

D. Johnson stated he didn't know that if an officer gets suspended without pay that it affects his benefits.

B. Smith asked is there a discrepancy between the Chief's decision and this Board. She stated if they do wrong, then they must suffer the consequences.

Comm. Okdie stated in general he agrees with her, but in 1970, the department had a unit called STREES. As a result, the citizens decided that there will be a Board to oversee the department.

E. Moore congratulated Comm. Stewart and stated Councilman Kenyetta supports the Board and the department.

R. Scott stated he raised the issue at the last meeting because he was concerned about a statement that was made on the news by Comm. Rivera. There was a blanketed situation at the old 3rd and 4th precincts where the city had to pay out millions of dollars because of some officers' actions. He stated that each officer takes an oath and every officer has a personal responsibility.

Comm. Okdie stated he didn't make his previous comment based on a decision that was made a week ago. He made those statements based on the functions of this commission. He stated that the three years that he has been on this Board he has been the outspoken one for suspensions without pay. He also stated that if the Board was going to rubber stamp everything the department said then there was no need for this Board.

He stated that this Board must remain objective.

R. Scott stated that Comm. Rivera mentioned that the vote last week was a unanimous decision. He would like to see a statement from the Board on how the decision was made regarding those officers.

Comm. Okdie stated he will not set any precedence.

B. Johnson stated she is here to support newly elected Commissioner Toney Stewart on behalf of the Governor.

B. Wellbourne stated he is a firm believer in discipline and everyone should support the Chief's decision.

Comm. Rivera stated a request having been made that the Board of Police Commissioners conduct a closed session, pursuant to MCL 15. 268 (h) of the Open Meeting Act, to consider and discuss the rejected application of David Bedford and Loren Courts.

MOTION: **Comm. Rivera** made the motion to enter into a closed session.

SECOND: **Comm. Stewart** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

Comm. Okdie stated the motion having been approved by a majority of the Board members, a closed session will now be convened.

The Board went into a closed session at 4:05 p.m.

The Board returned from closed session at 4:27 p.m.

MOTION: **Comm. Ramirez** made the motion to return from closed session.

SECOND: **Comm. Rivera** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

Comm. Okdie asked for the Personnel Subcommittee recommendation to be read into the record.

Exec Dir. Goss stated the Personnel Subcommittee's recommendation for Loren Courts is to deny the appeal.

MOTION: **Comm. Rivera** made the motion to deny the appeal.

SECOND: **Comm. Stewart** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

Exec Dir. Goss stated the Personnel Subcommittee's recommendation for David Bedford is to deny the appeal.

MOTION: **Comm. Rivera** made the motion to deny the appeal.

SECOND: **Comm. Stewart** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

Comm. Okdie stated for the record Mr. Bedford did not appear for his appeal hearing.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DANTE' L. GOSS
Executive Director
Board of Police Commissioners

DLG/rb